

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute claims 1-28 with the following:

1-28. (Cancelled)

29. (New) A method in a data processing system having peer-to-peer replicated data stores including a message sending data store and a plurality of data stores, comprising the steps of:

broadcasting a replication message from the message sending data store to the plurality of data stores;

receiving, by a receiving one of the plurality of data stores, the replication message sent from the message sending data store; and

updating a value in the receiving data store based on the received replication message.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, further comprising the steps of:

updating a second value in the receiving data store; and

broadcasting, from the receiving data store, a replication message to a second receiving data store based on the update of the second value.

31. (New) The method of claim 29, further comprising the step of:

determining if the replication message received from the message sending data store is consistent with the value in the receiving data store.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, further comprising the steps of:
identifying the difference between the receiving data store and the message sending data store if the receiving data store and the message sending data store are not consistent; and
reconciling the receiving data store and the message sending data store based on the identification.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the reconciling further comprises the step of:
updating the least recent data store at the point of the identified difference based on the most recent data store.

34. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the receiving data store is a hierarchical replicated data store.

35. (New) The method of claim 34 further comprising the step of:
comparing contents of the receiving hierarchical replicated data store to the received replication message using hash values.

36. (New) The method of claim 35, further comprising the step of:

comparing a sub-tree in the receiving hierarchical replicated data store by comparing

hash values.

37. (New) A data processing system having peer-to-peer replicated data stores
including a message sending data store and a plurality of data stores, comprising:

a memory comprising program instructions that broadcast a replication message from the
message sending data store to the plurality of data stores, receive, by a receiving one of the
plurality of data stores, the replication message sent from the message sending data store, and
update a value in the receiving data store based on the received replication message; and

a processor for running the program.

38. (New) The data processing system of claim 37, wherein the program further
updates a second value in the receiving data store, and broadcasts, from the receiving data store,
a replication message to a second receiving data store based on the update of the second value.

39. (New) The data processing system of claim 37, wherein the program further determines if a replication message received from the message sending data store is consistent with the value in the receiving data store.

40. (New) The data processing system of claim 39, wherein the program further identifies the difference between the receiving data store and the message sending data store if the receiving data store and the message sending data store are not consistent, and reconciles the receiving data store and the message sending data store based on the identification.

41. (New) The data processing system of claim 40, wherein the reconciling further comprises the step of:

updating the least recent data store at the point of the identified difference based on the most recent data store.

42. (New) The data processing system of claim 37, wherein the receiving data store is a hierarchical replicated data store.

43. (New) The data processing system of claim 42, wherein the program further compares contents of the receiving hierarchical replicated data store to the received replication message using hash values.

44. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the program further compares a sub-tree in the receiving hierarchical replicated data store by comparing hash values.

45. (New) A computer-readable storage medium containing instructions for controlling a data processing system having peer-to-peer replicated data stores, including a message sending data store and a plurality of data stores, to perform a method comprising the steps of:

broadcasting a replication message from the message sending data store to the plurality of data stores;

receiving, by a receiving one of the plurality of data stores, the replication message sent from the message sending data store; and

updating a value in the receiving data store based on the received replication message.

46. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 45, wherein the method further comprises the steps of:

updating a second value in the receiving data store; and

broadcasting, from the receiving data store, a replication message to a second receiving data store based on the update of the second value.

47. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 45, wherein the method further comprises the step of:

determining if the replication message received from the message sending data store is consistent with the value in the receiving data store.

48. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 47, where in the method further comprises the steps of:

identifying the difference between the receiving data store and the message sending data store if the receiving data store and the message sending data store are not consistent; and

reconciling the receiving data store and the message sending data store based on the identification.

49. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 48, wherein the reconciling further comprises the step of:

updating the least recent data store at the point of the identified difference based on the most recent data store.

50. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 45, wherein the receiving data store is a hierarchical replicated data store.

51. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 50, wherein the method further comprises the step of:

comparing contents of the receiving hierarchical replicated data store to the received replication message using hash values.

52. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 51, wherein the method further comprises the step of:

comparing a sub-tree in the receiving hierarchical replicated data store by comparing hash values.